THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The Licensees have made payments of licence fee upto the quarter ending 31.12.2002 in terms of the licence agreements.

Adoption of I.T.

2338. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have started adopting Information Technology for streamlining Government records, especially land records; and

(b) if so, the steps, if any being taken by Government for adopting e-Governance in different Central Government Offices and departments and to promote e-Govemance in Central-State and international relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Information Technology (DIT) through National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been providing network backbone and e-Governance support to Central Government Departments, State Governments and District Administration in the country.

Planning Commission guidelines permit usage of 2 to 3% of budget provision in Central Ministries/Departments for Programmes/Schemes relating to Information Technology. A minimum agenda for e-Governance has also been drawn up for implementation by the Central Ministries/ Departments.

While approving the Tenth Five Year Plan, the National Development Council (NDC) has set up four Empowered Sub-Committees including an Empowered Sub-Committee on Governance Reforms including e-Govemance.